

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Patent Application of:  
Dabral, et al.**

**Examiner: To be assigned**

**Art Unit: To be assigned**

**Application No.: To be assigned**

**Filed: 21 August 2001**

### For: An Inline and Y Input-Output Bus Topology

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

Preliminary to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below.

## In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 9-18, to read as follows:

In general, for the embodiment of Fig. 4b and other embodiments, vias 408 define a regular array. The region between two consecutive rows (or columns) of a regular array of vias defines a channel. For the embodiment of Fig. 4b and other embodiments, bus lines are routed so as to be within or underneath one and only one channel. That is, in an area or region of a board directly underneath an agent that is to be connected to a bus, individual bus traces making up the bus do not cross from one channel to the next. For the particular embodiment shown in Fig. 4b, bus

411  
cancel

traces **410** and **412** are in one channel, and bus traces **414** and **416** are in another channel. Bus topologies such as those according to the embodiments of Figs. 3, 4a, and 4b allow for relatively small stub lengths, and are found to address some or all of the problems cited in the Background.

#### **In the Claims**

Please cancel without prejudice claims 1-13.

#### **Remarks**

Claim 14 is presently active, claims 1-13 having been cancelled without prejudice by this preliminary amendment.

The patent application filed herewith is a divisional of parent application no. 09/474,345. In the office action dated 11 July 2001 for the parent application (Office Action), claims 1-14 were subject to restriction. Specifically, four species were identified in the Office Action, corresponding, respectively, to: (i) Figs. 4a and b; (ii) Figs. 5a and b; (iii) Fig. 6; and (iv) Fig. 7.

Applicants submit that claims 1-14 are grouped as follows: Claims 1-5 are directed to the species corresponding to Figs. 4a and b; claims 6-8 are directed to the species corresponding to Figs. 5a and b; claims 9-13 are directed to the species corresponding to Fig. 6; and claim 14 is directed to the species corresponding to Fig. 7.

By canceling claims 1-13 by this preliminary amendment, Applicants are electing to prosecute claims directed to the species of Fig. 7.

Minor informalities are corrected in the specification by this Amendment.

Seth Z Kalson Dated: 8-21-01

Attorney for Applicants and Intel Corporation (Assignee)

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